

Remarks/Arguments:

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed September 20, 2005.

Claims 1-30 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-30 and objected to claims 27 and 28. The present Response amends claims 27 and 28, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration claims 1-30. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 27 and 28 are objected to because claim 27 depends on itself. Claim 27 has been amended to avoid this problem.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nerlikar U.S. Patent No. 5,629,981. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Nerlikar describes an information management and security system in which RFID badges are used. Nerlikar describes in one embodiment the use of the RFID badges to make the transmission using faxes and the like more secure.

Independent claims 1, 16 and 25 reads as follows:

1. A System comprising: an RF ID unit; and an RF ID reader, wherein the RF ID unit is adapted to transmit a stored ID to the RF ID reader, the RF ID unit adapted to encrypt a password input from a user interface to form an encrypted message, the RF ID unit adapted to transmit the encrypted message to the RF ID reader, the RF ID reader adapted to use the ID to obtain a key to decrypt the encrypted message with the key and to authenticate the RF ID unit.

16. A method comprising: transmitting an ID from an RF ID unit to an RF-ID reader; receiving a password from a user interface; encrypting the password to form an encrypted message; and transmitting the encrypted message from the RF ID unit to an RF-ID reader.

25. An RF ID unit with a user interface, the RF ID unit adapted to transmit a stored ID to a RF ID reader, the RF ID unit adapted to encrypt a password input from the user interface to form an encrypted message, the RF ID unit adapted to transmit the encrypted message to a RF ID reader.

Each of these claims disclose the use of password input from a user interface at the RFID unit. This is not shown or suggested in the Nerlikar reference.

Nerlikar describes a input/output data means at the badge, but this input/output data means isn't used to receive a password for a user. The input/output data means appears to be associated with a encryption or data handling for the Personal Computer Memory Card Interface (PCMCIA) standard.

Nerlikar does not disclose, suggest or give a motivation for having a user input a password at the RFID unit, which is then sent using the RFIDs signals. In fact, in column 12 line 43-53 of Nerlikar, the reference effectively teaches against the use of a password such as a personal identification number. Passwords are discouraged in favor of voice signatures or other biological identification. Additionally, at no point in the Nerlikar reference does it disclose the use of user interface that can receive a user password input at the RFID unit.

For these reasons, the independent claims 1, 16 and 25 are believed to be allowable. Claims 2-15, 17-24, 26-30 are dependent upon of the above discussed independent claims and for that reason and because of the additional limitation of these claims, these claims are believed to be allowable.

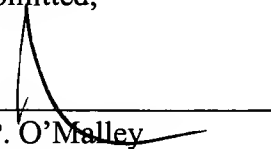
For example, independent claims 15, 24, and 30 claim a keypad. Nerlikar does not disclose, suggest or give a motivation for using a keypad as the user interface at the RFID unit. For this additional reason, these dependent claims are believed to be allowable.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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